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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/721,142	11/25/2003	John C. Gudenkauf	MSFT-2755/303265.01	6319

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EXAMINER

DEBROW, JAMES J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2176

DATE MAILED: 12/27/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/721,142

Applicant(s)

GUDENKAUF ET AL.

Examiner

James J. Debrow

Art Unit

2176

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 November 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☒ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in responsive to communications: Application filled on 11/25/2003.
2. Claims 1-28 are pending in this case. Claims 1, and 15, are independent claims.

Oath/Declaration

3. The oath or declaration is defective. A new oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) identifying this application by application number and filing date is required. See MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02.

The oath or declaration is defective because: The re-submitted declaration does not include the signature of each inventor.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. **Claims 1 - 28, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huang (Pub. No.: 2001/0032218 A1; Pub. Date: Oct. 18, 2001), in view of Kutay et al. (Pub. No.: 2002/0026461 A1; Pub. Date: Feb. 28, 2002).**

In regard to independent claims 1, and 15, Haung discloses a system for generating structured documents. The system has an editing module (410 in Fig 4) that creates/edits the structured-based font information for the input document. The editing module allows selection of data elements for the input documents and provides an editing environment to alter the attributes for the selected data elements (*receiving a selection of a piece of content*) (section 0067). In one embodiment, the system receives a definition file including document type definitions, and displays a metafile document (*specifying attributes relating to displaying the received item*), which includes a number of displayable objects, along with their respective *attributes*. Haung also teaches the presentation of a structured document is usually defined in separate style sheets, which interprets layout for each document element (section 0046; lines 3-9) (*the layout*

statement specifying each item of the content that is to appear in the page). Style-sheets allow structured documents to be presented in different layouts for different media.

Haung does not disclose expressly *outputting the page based on the edited content and the layout statement, the page being in a pre-selected rendering format.*

However, Kutay et al. discloses an embodiment for a method for converting the source document from a source format to a target format (*pre-selected rendering format*), and presenting the source document to the user (section 0186). The source document is displayed in the target format (section 0202).

Therefore, at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine Kutay et al with Haung for the benefit of displaying (*outputting*) the document/page with the target format (*pre-selected*), in accordance with the metafile document (*edit content*) and style sheet (*layout statement*) to obtain the invention as specified in the claims.

In regard to dependent claims 5, and 19, these claims contain substantially similar subject matter as in claims 1, and 16, and therefore are rejected along the same rationale.

In regard to dependent claims 6, and 20, Haung does not disclose expressly *the transforming process applies the pre-selected rendering format as a transform along with the edited content and the layout statement to produce a page.*

However, Kutay et al. discloses in one embodiment, an XML editor within the user interface module to create views presented in XML format, and a XML transform editor converts the XML format document to a target format, i.e HTML (section 0062).

Therefore at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use the pre-selected rendering format as a transform to produce a page. The motivation in doing so would have been to reduce the processing time required to produce the page.

In regard to dependent claims 7, and 21, Haung does not disclose expressly *the transforming process outputs a plurality of versions of the page based on the edited content and the layout statement, each version of the page being in a pre-selected rendering format.*

However, Kutay et al. discloses an embodiment for a method for converting the source document from a source format to a target format (*pre-selected rendering format*), and presenting the source document to the user (section 0186). The source document is displayed in the target format (section 0202).

Therefore, at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine Kutay et al with Haung for the benefit of displaying (*outputting*) the document/page with the target format (*pre-selected*), in accordance with the metafile document (*edit content*) and style sheet (*layout statement*).

In regard to dependent claims 10, and 24, Haung discloses a system for

generating structured documents. The system has an editing module (410 in Fig 4) that creates/edits the structured-based font information for the input document. The editing module allows selection of data elements for the input documents and provides an editing environment to alter the attributes for the selected data elements. This module also allows sequence selections of data elements based on the reading order of the input document (*receiving a selection of the page as another pieces of edited content*) (section 0068, lines 6-8). In one embodiment, the system receives a definition file including document type definitions, and displays a metafile document, which includes a number of displayable objects, along with their respective *attributes*. Haung also teaches the presentation of a structured document is usually defined in separate style sheets, which interprets layout for each document element (section 0046; lines 3-9) (*the layout statement specifying each item of the content that is to appear in the page*). Style-sheets allow structured documents to be presented in different layouts for different media.

Haung does not disclose expressly *outputting another page based on the page and, the another layout statement*.

However, Kutay et al. discloses an embodiment for a method for converting the source document from a source format to a target format, and presenting the source document to the user (section 0186). The source document is displayed in the target format (section 0202).

Therefore, at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine Kutay et al with Haung for the benefit of displaying

(*outputting*) the document/page with the target format, in accordance with the metafile document and style sheet (*another layout statement*) to obtain the invention as specified in the claims.

In regard to dependent claims 11, and 25, Haung discloses a system for generating structured documents. The system has an editing module (410 in Fig 4) that creates/edits the structured-based font information for the input document. The editing module allows selection of data elements for the input documents and provides an editing environment to alter the attributes for the selected data elements. This module also allows sequence selections of data elements based on the reading order of the input document (*receiving a selection of a plurality of pieces of edited content*) (section 0068, lines 6-8). In one embodiment, the system receives a definition file including document type definitions, and displays a metafile document, which includes a number of displayable objects, along with their respective *attributes*. Haung also teaches the presentation of a structured document is usually defined in separate style sheets, which interprets layout for each document element (section 0046; lines 3-9) (*the layout statement specifying each item of the content that is to appear in the page*). Style-sheets allow structured documents to be presented in different layouts for different media.

Haung does not disclose expressly *outputting the page based on each piece of the edited content and the layout statement,*

However, Kutay et al. discloses an embodiment for a method for converting the source document from a source format to a target format, and presenting the source document to the user (section 0186). The source document is displayed in the target format (section 0202).

Therefore, at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine Kutay et al with Haung for the benefit of displaying (*outputting*) the document/page with the target format, in accordance with the metafile document (*each piece of edit content*) and style sheet (*layout statement*) to obtain the invention as specified in the claims.

In regard to dependent claims 14, and 28 , Haung discloses a user interface (*UI*) (section 0037; fig 1) system for generating structured documents. The system contains an editing module (410 in Fig 4) that creates/edits the structured-based font information for the input document. The editing module allows selection of data elements for the input documents and provides an editing environment to alter the attributes for the selected data elements (*receiving a first/second selection of a piece of edited content based on a request for a page based on the edited content form a first/second requester*) (section 0067). Haung also discloses the transformation module (414 in Fig 4) can output the edited document as an intermediate structured document (*selection of first/second transform*), which can be reloaded for further editing (section 0071).

Haung does not disclose expressly *outputting a first/second version of the page based on the edited content and the first/second transform, the first/second version of the page for being served to the first/second requester.*

However, Kutay et al. discloses an embodiment for a method for converting the source document from a source format to a target format (*first/second version of the page based on the edited content and the first/second transform*), and presenting the source document to the user (*first/second requester*) (section 0186). The source document is displayed in the target format (*outputting a first/second version of the page*) (section 0202).

Therefore, at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine Kutay et al with Haung for the benefit of displaying (*outputting*) the document/page with the target format (*first/second version of the page*), based on the edited content and the first/second transform to obtain the invention as specified in the claims.

In regard to dependent claims 2, and 16, Haung discloses a computer and computing device that perform document conversion process (*editing process*) and generate structure documents that may be ultimately represented in a format of markup language such as XML or HTML (*pre-selected rendering format*) (section 0036, lines 1-5). The invention is preferably implemented in software, hardware, or a combination of both. Portions of the invention can be embodied as computer readable code on a *computer readable medium* (section 0075).

In regard to dependent claims 3, and 17, Haung discloses a user interface (*UI*) system that use metafile formatted files (*neutral format*) in transforming structured documents. The invention may be utilized to convert documents to a markup representation regardless of the exact word processing format (*outputs the edit content in a neutral format not specified to any particular rendering format*) (section 0038). The invention is preferably implemented in software, hardware, or a combination of both. Portions of the invention can be embodied as computer readable code on a *computer readable medium* (section 0075).

In regard to dependent claims 4, and 18, Haung discloses in one application of the invention, the structured documents represented in XML format are converted to HTML format (section 0036, lines 5-6). The invention is preferably implemented in software, hardware, or a combination of both. Portions of the invention can be embodied as computer readable code on a *computer readable medium* (section 0075).

In regard to dependent claims 8, and 22, Haung discloses an implementation of the invention as a method for providing a document conversion (*transforming*) process with a method comprising of a counter having a numbering system, converting an unstructured document into a metafile, wherein the metafile including a number of displayable objects (*number of items of content and a number of controls of an edit form*), and respective attributes about each of the displayable objects (section 0013). The invention is preferably implemented in software, hardware, or a combination of

both. Portions of the invention can be embodied as computer readable code on a *computer readable medium* (section 0075).

In regard to dependent claims 9, and 23, Haung discloses an embodiment of the invention where the *user* uses a desk computer that is coupled to a data *network* to access files on a service *server*. The files (*page*) *stored on the server* may represent the latest product information originally composed via an authoring tool (section 0037; Fig 1). The invention is preferably implemented in software, hardware, or a combination of both. Portions of the invention can be embodied as computer readable code on a *computer readable medium* (section 0075).

In regard to dependent claims 12, 13, 26, and 27, Haung discloses that other than directly converting into the desired document, the transformation module (414 in Fig 4) can output the edited document as an intermediate structured document, which can be reloaded for further editing (section 0071). Haung further disclose one embodiment that ultimately converts the metafile to an XML file (section 0050; section 0036). The invention is preferably implemented in software, hardware, or a combination of both. Portions of the invention can be embodied as computer readable code on a *computer readable medium* (section 0075).

Within the specifications (section 0032), the applicant discloses a XML format as being an intermediate form (*transform*) of the content, with a neutral format, that takes into consideration the edit form, the content-control statement, and perhaps the layout

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statement. Due to it's neutral format. XML format does not have any particular rendering format.

Therefore, at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art that a previously generated XML file (*selection/plurality of a transform*) could be further processed using a different edited content, to effectuate a pre-defined change within that edited content and the layout.

The motivation for doing so would have been for the benefit of not needing to re-generate the same intermediate form (*transform*) of the content, when using/merging the same edited document (XML format) with a different edited content.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James J. Debrow whose telephone number is 571-272-5768. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached on 571-272-4136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

James Debrow
Examiner
Art Unit 2176

William L. Bashore
WILLIAM BASHORE
PRIMARY EXAMINER
12/22/2005